

Weekly Newscast Lesson Plan



Learning English with CBC is a joint project with
CBC Calgary, CBC Edmonton and the Government of Alberta



Objectives:

- To develop listening skills
- To increase vocabulary
- To increase knowledge of current events
- To provide an authentic learning resource

Contents:

- Three news stories
- Vocabulary building activities
- Listening comprehension activities
- Transcripts
- Answer keys

Calgary

November 7, 2016

News story #1 The “most advanced airport terminal” opens in Calgary (0:13)
Setting the Scene



Calgary Airport’s new terminal will connect Calgary with American and international cities (Colleen Underwood/CBC) (CBC file photo)

On October 31st, Calgary Airport opened a new terminal. It has many new features to make travelling easier and more comfortable. New technology will make security and customs processes easier. An electric minibus will connect passengers to different areas. The terminal also has a modern design, with art, natural light, and a high ceiling.

Pre-listening Questions

Have you been to Calgary’s airport? Do you think it is a comfortable place?

Are Canadian airports similar to those in your home country?

What kind of services do airports have?

Vocabulary

Synonym Matching

To help you better understand the story, choose the pair of synonyms (words with similar meaning) that best match each of the vocabulary words. *Answers are in the appendix.*

<u>Answer</u>	<u>Word from the story</u>	<u>Synonyms</u>
_____	terminal (n.)	a) foreign, global
_____	advanced (adj.)	b) development; newest area
_____	expansion (n.)	c) transporter, train
_____	hub (n.)	d) offers, includes
_____	international (adj.)	e) station; building
_____	destinations (n.)	f) centre; middle of the action
_____	features (v.)	g) traveler, tourist
_____	passenger (n.)	h) amazed, happy
_____	shuttle (n.)	i) leading, high-tech
_____	impressed (adj.)	j) final stops; place (you are going)

Extra definitions to help you understand the listening:

customs – the place at an airport or border where the government checks what people are bringing into the country

We encourage you to study these new words using this link: [https://quizlet.com/ 2qpjku](https://quizlet.com/2qpjku)

You can practice online for free and as many times as you want to. The Quizlet app is a free vocabulary study tool. You can download it to your phone or tablet and practice new vocabulary whenever you have time.

Listening Activity

Multiple Choice

Read the following sentences. Then, listen to the audio and choose the best answer to complete the sentences. *Answers are in the appendix.*

1. Calgary's new _____ airport terminal is now open.	a. intermediate b. introduction c. international
2. It's being called "the most advanced airport terminal in _____."	a. Calgary b. Canada c. Quebec
3. The expansion opened last week and cost _____ dollars.	a. 2 million b. 22 billion c. 2 billion
4. It's the new hub for _____ flights leaving Calgary for the United States.	a. all b. any c. 80
5. It's big – about 2 million square feet and _____ different levels.	a. four b. five c. nine
6. The terminal features new Canada-US _____ technology.	a. culture b. card-scanning c. customs
7. There are _____ gates.	a. 24 b. 14 c. 20
8. Most _____ said they were impressed with the new facility.	a. people b. pilots c. passengers

Food for Thought

Do you like travelling by plane? Why or why not?

What do you think airports could do to make travel more fun? More convenient?

If you could fly anywhere in the world, where would you go? Why?

News story #2 Canada celebrates 150th birthday with free park admissions (1:11)

Setting the Scene



Cars wait to enter Banff National Park (CBC File photo)

In Canada, many parks are run by national and provincial governments. The governments keep the parks clean and run the visitor services. If you want to visit one of these parks, you must pay a small entrance fee. This money helps pay for park facilities, such as toilets, parking, signs, and tourist services. In 2016, the cost of a daily pass to Banff National Park in Alberta is \$9.80 for an adult, \$4.90 for a youth, and \$19.60 for a family or group of up to seven people.

Pre-listening Questions

Have you ever been to Banff National Park in Alberta?

Can you name any other national or provincial parks in Canada? Have you visited them?

What kinds of activities can you do in these parks?

Vocabulary

Find the definition (Multiple Choice)

Learning some of the new words you will hear in the listening will help you understand the news story. Read the sentences below and choose the best definition for the words in **bold**.

Answers are in the appendix.

1. Usually, **admission** to parks and facilities is cheaper for children.
 - a. entry rules
 - b. entry price
2. To celebrate the country's 150th birthday, the **mayor** is organizing events in Calgary.
 - a. leader of a city
 - b. leader of a province
3. Shops and restaurants need to **be prepared** for more customers in summer tourist season.
 - a. be polite
 - b. be ready
4. Some streets have lanes for special **vehicles**, like buses or streetcars.
 - a. machines for cleaning
 - b. machines for transportation
5. The city **reached** its goal of budgeting enough to build a new library.
 - a. met or arrived at
 - b. tried to get
6. This map of Alberta's parks **includes** a list of phone numbers and websites about the parks.
 - a. has, contains
 - b. enters
7. The city has a traffic problem. I think the **solution** is to run more buses and subways.
 - a. difficulty
 - b. answer

Extra definitions to help you understand the listening:

townsite – the area of a town and its land

We encourage you to study these new words using this link: https://quizlet.com/_2qpjv1

You can practice online for free and as many times as you want to. The Quizlet app is a free vocabulary study tool. You can download it to your phone or tablet and practice new vocabulary whenever you have time.

Listening Activity

Answering True/False questions

Read the following statements. While you listen to the story, decide whether the statements are **true** or **false**. Write your answer in the blanks.

Answers are in the appendix.

1. ____ Next year, admission to all parks will be free.
2. ____ This includes Banff National Park in Alberta.
3. ____ The mayor of Banff is worried the park isn't prepared for extra vehicles.
4. ____ The park can handle 4,000 vehicles a day.
5. ____ In July and August, the park reached this number of vehicles every day.
6. ____ Parks Canada will meet with town officials to come up with a plan.
7. ____ A plan could include parking lots outside of the townsite.
8. ____ Mayor Sorensen believes this is plenty of time to come up with a solution.
9. ____ Sorensen wants to see something that can be used long-term once summer is over.

Food for thought

How can the town of Banff handle the extra parking in 2017? Do you have any ideas?

Imagine you are planning a summer trip to Banff National Park. What activities would you do? What items would you need to bring?

News story #3 Canadians honour soldiers in Remembrance Day events (2:24)

Setting the Scene



A reservist with the Royal Canadian Engineers in Calgary pays her respects at a local military cemetery (Jeff McIntosh/Canadian Press) (CBC file photo)

November 11th is Remembrance Day in many countries around the world, including Canada. This is a day to honour all Canadians who have died in wars while fighting in Canada's army, navy, and air forces. It honours the soldiers who died, and also the soldiers who are still with us. Cities across Canada have events to mark this day, including parades, concerts, and ceremonies. Schools often hold special events to teach children about this day.

Pre-listening Questions

Most major cities in Canada have statues or memorials to honour soldiers. Can you think of any in Calgary? Where are they?

Have you seen any Remembrance Day signs or posters around the city? In your school/work?

Vocabulary

Sentence Completion

Learning some of the new words you will hear in the listening will help you understand the news story. Use the vocabulary words below to complete the sentences. *Answers are in the appendix.*

honour (v.)	to celebrate and respect
battle (n.)	a military fight, such as in a war
dedicated (adj.)	supporting a person/group
cross (n.)	a Christian symbol of a long line with a shorter line across it
ceremony (n.)	a formal event for a special occasion
various (adj.)	numerous, different
charities (n.)	organizations that help people or groups
veterans (n.)	people who fought in a war

1. The musician performed a song that was _____ to his daughter, because it was her birthday.
2. The university organized a _____ to celebrate the professor's prize.
3. The PPCLI, a famous group of Canadian soldiers, fought several _____ in Italy in the Second World War. In Calgary, a section of the military museum _____ this group.
4. _____ Affairs Canada is a government department that helps people who used to be soldiers. It offers health, financial, and career support.
5. The Alberta flag features a crest on a blue background. At the top of the crest is a red _____ on a white background. It is the flag of England.
6. People who want to give money to cancer _____ can choose from _____ groups, such as the Alberta Cancer Foundation or the Canadian Cancer Society.

Extra definitions to help you understand the listening:

fallen – died while fighting in a war

lapels – the folds of fabric below the collar of a coat or jacket

mark – to show the importance of a particular day or event

We encourage you to study these new words using this link: https://quizlet.com/_2qpk0h

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Listening Activity

Short Answer

Read the questions below. Listen to the audio and answer the questions. Use vocabulary words in the questions to help you answer the questions. *Answers are in the appendix.*

1. When is Remembrance Day?
2. In Calgary, what is the name of the memorial on Memorial Drive?
3. How many crosses are there?
4. What do the crosses represent?
5. When are the ceremonies at the memorial?
6. On Friday, ceremonies will be held at what time of day?
7. This day and time marks the time when which war ended?
8. What colour are poppies?
9. The money raised by selling poppies supports what groups?

Food for thought

What will you do on Remembrance Day? Will your neighbourhood/school/workplace do anything to mark the day?

Does your country have a day to honour its soldiers? What do people do on this day?

If you could meet a Canadian veteran, what would you say to him or her?

Transcripts of Weekly news stories

	NOVEMBER WEEKLY NEWS STORIES	TIME
Introduction	Hi, I'm Shannon Scott and this is Learning English with the CBC for November 7th with stories that made news over the past week.	0:00
Story 1	Calgary's new International Airport Terminal is now open. It's being called "the most advanced airport terminal in Canada". The expansion opened last week and cost 2 billion dollars. It's the new hub for all flights leaving Calgary for the United States and other international destinations. It's big - about 2 million square feet and five different levels. The terminal features new Canada-US customs technology and a passenger shuttle service. There are 24 gates. Overall, on opening day, most passengers said they were impressed with the new facility.	0:13
Story 2	Canada turns 150 years old next year, and to celebrate, admission to all national parks will be free. This includes Banff National Park in Alberta. But the mayor of Banff is worried the park isn't prepared for all of the extra vehicles that could come when no one has to pay to get in. Karen Sorensen says the park can handle 24-thousand vehicles a day. In July and August, the park reached this number of vehicles 80% of the time. Parks Canada says it will be meeting with town officials to come up with a plan. This plan could include parking lots outside of the townsite. Sorensen says she's not sure there's enough time to come up with a solution. She would like to see something that can be used long-term once the 2017 celebrations are over.	1:11
Story 3	Remembrance Day is on Friday. It's a day when Canadians remember and honour soldiers who have lost their lives in battle. In Calgary, there is a memorial on Memorial Drive dedicated to soldiers. It's called the Field of Crosses. There are more than 32 hundred crosses there. One for each soldier from southern Alberta who died fighting for Canada. Twice a day from November 1st until Remembrance Day, a ceremony is held at the memorial. One is at sunrise and one is at sunset to honour fallen soldiers. On Friday, ceremonies will be held at various locations in the city at 11am. The date and time, the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month, is chosen for these ceremonies to mark the time the First World War ended. Canadians also wear poppies, red flowers with black centres, on their left lapels for Remembrance Day. All of the money raised from selling poppies goes to charities that support Canada's veterans.	2:24

Answer keys –

News story 1 – The “most advanced airport terminal” opens in Calgary (0:13)

Vocabulary

<u>Answer</u>	<u>Word from the story</u>	<u>Synonyms</u>
<u>e</u>	terminal (n.)	a) foreign, global
<u>i</u>	advanced (adj.)	b) development; newest area
<u>b</u>	expansion (n.)	c) transporter, train
<u>f</u>	hub (n.)	d) offers, includes
<u>a</u>	international (adj.)	e) station; building
<u>i</u>	destinations (n.)	f) centre; middle of the action
<u>d</u>	features (v.)	g) traveler, tourist
<u>g</u>	passenger (n.)	h) amazed, happy
<u>c</u>	shuttle (n.)	i) leading, high-tech
<u>h</u>	impressed (adj.)	j) final stops; place (you are going)

Listening

1. Calgary's new _____ airport terminal is now open.	a. intermediate b. introduction c. international
2. It's being called "the most advanced airport terminal in _____."	a. Calgary b. Canada c. Quebec
3. The expansion opened last week and cost _____ dollars.	a. 2 million b. 22 billion c. 2 billion

4. It's the new hub for _____ flights leaving Calgary for the United States.	a. all b. any c. 80
5. It's big – about 2 million square feet and _____ different levels.	a. four b. five c. nine
6. The terminal features new Canada-US _____ technology.	a. culture b. card-scanning c. customs
7. There are _____ gates.	a. 24 b. 14 c. 20
8. Most _____ said they were impressed with the new facility.	a. people b. pilots c. passengers

News story 2 – Canada celebrates 150th birthday with free park admissions (1:11)

Vocabulary

- Usually, **admission** to parks and facilities is cheaper for children.
 - entry rules
 - entry price
- To celebrate the country's 150th birthday, the **mayor** is organizing events in Calgary.
 - leader of a city
 - leader of a province
- Shops and restaurants need to **be prepared** for more customers in summer tourist season.
 - be polite
 - be ready
- Some streets have lanes for special **vehicles**, like buses or streetcars.
 - machines for cleaning
 - machines for transportation
- The city **reached** its goal of budgeting enough to build a new library.
 - met or arrived at
 - tried to get

6. This map of Alberta's parks **includes** a list of phone numbers and websites about the parks.
 - a. has, contains
 - b. enters
7. The city has a traffic problem. I think the **solution** is to run more buses and subways.
 - a. difficulty
 - b. answer

Listening

1. F Next year, admission to all parks will be free.
2. T This includes Banff National Park in Alberta.
3. T The mayor of Banff is worried the park isn't prepared for extra vehicles.
4. F The park can handle 4,000 vehicles a day.
5. F In July and August, the park reached this number of vehicles every day.
6. T Parks Canada will meet with town officials to come up with a plan.
7. T A plan could include parking lots outside of the townsite.
8. F Mayor Sorensen believes this is plenty of time to come up with a solution.
9. F Sorensen wants to see something that can be used long-term once summer is over.

News story 3 - Canadians honour soldiers in Remembrance Day events (2:24)

Vocabulary

1. The musician performed a song that was **dedicated** to his daughter, because it was her birthday.
2. The university organized a **ceremony** to celebrate the professor's prize.
3. The PPCLI, a famous group of Canadian soldiers, fought several **battles** in Italy in the Second World War. In Calgary, a section of the military museum **honours** this group.
4. **Veterans** Affairs Canada is a government department that helps people who used to be soldiers. It offers health, financial, and career support.

5. The Alberta flag features a crest on a blue background. At the top of the crest is a red cross on a white background. It is the flag of England.
6. People who want to give money to cancer charities can choose from various groups, such as the Alberta Cancer Foundation or the Canadian Cancer Society.

Listening

1. When is Remembrance Day?
Friday (November 11th)
2. In Calgary, what is the name of the memorial on Memorial Drive?
The Field of Crosses
3. How many crosses are there?
3200 crosses
4. What do the crosses represent?
Soldiers / Each soldier from southern Alberta who died fighting for Canada
5. When are the ceremonies at the memorial?
Sunrise and sunset
6. On Friday, ceremonies will be held at what time of day?
11:00 am
7. This day and time marks the time when which war ended?
The First World War
8. What colour are poppies?
Red, with black centres
9. The money raised by selling poppies supports what groups?
Charities that support Canada's veterans